

NEWCASTLE EMLYN RURAL SANITARY AUTHORITY

ANNUAL REPORT

of the Sanitary Conditions of the
Newcastle Emlyn Rural District
for the Year
1969

BY

ELFYN T. JONES
B.Sc., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.
Medical Officer of Health

PREFACE

To the Chairman and Members of the Newcastle Emlyn Rural District Council.

Madam Chairman and Members,

In presenting my Annual Report for the year ended 31st December, 1969, it affords me much pleasure to report that the health of the population remained at a satisfactory level.

I wish to gratefully acknowledge the work carried out by my staff and to thank the Members of the Public Health Committee and the Council for the wholehearted manner in which they have supported me. I also wish to thank my colleagues and their staff for their continued support and help.

I am, Madam Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

ELFYN T. JONES

Medical Officer of Health

PRINCIPAL OFFICERS OF THE COUNCIL

Clerk of the Council and Chief Executive Officer ... S. J. DAVIES

Medical Officer of Health Dr. ELFYN T. JONES, B.Sc.,
M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Official Address and telephone number of the Medical Officer of Health :
Public Health Department, 3, Spilman Street, Carmarthen.
Telephone Number : Carmarthen 5131.

Public Health Inspector R. F. JONES, M.A.P.H.I.

Surveyor E. L. THOMAS

Deputy Clerk of the Council W. D. DAVIES

Rate Collector E. D. JONES

Consultant Architect W. S. P. COTTRELL

Consultant Engineers Messrs. PARRY, LEWIS &
PARTNERS.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

The Newcastle Emlyn Rural District, a large portion of which lies in the beautiful Vale of Teify, covers an area of 82,842 acres, and extends from Cenarth in the north west to Llanyerwys in the east. The district is divided into eight Parishes, viz :- Cenarth, Llangeler, Llanfihangel-ar-Arth, Llanllwni, Llanfihangel Rhos-y-Corn, Llanybyther, Llanyerwys and Pencarreg. As expected in a rural area of this nature farming is the basic industry, with the emphasis on dairy farming.

The mid-year home population as estimated by the Registrar-General for 1969 is 8,000.

For Registration purposes the area is divided into the following two Registration Sub-Districts :—

Cenarth
Llanybyther

The Rateable value of the area is £132,868, the sum represented by a Penny Rate £506 and the number of inhabited houses at the end of the year according to the Rate Book is 3,093.

Public Swimming Baths :

There are no public swimming baths in the area of the rural district.

VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births :

				Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	...	...	...	53	46	99
Illegitimate	...	...	...	2	5	7
				<hr/> 55	<hr/> 51	<hr/> 106

Birth rate per 1,000 estimated home population ... 13.3

Still-Births :

There were no still-births during the year.

Infant Deaths (deaths under 1 year)	1	1	2
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Causes of Infant Deaths—

Other Diseases of Respiratory System	1
Birth Injury, Difficult Labour, etc.	1

Ages at which Infant Deaths occurred :

Under 4 weeks	2
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Infant Mortality Rates :

Total infant deaths per 1,000 live births	19
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	20
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 Illegitimate live births	...	...	0.00

Maternal Mortality :

No maternal death occurred in the area during the year.

Deaths (All Ages) :

	M	F	Total
Deaths	93	63	156
Death rate per 1,000 estimated home population	...	...	19.5

Comparison of rates with those for England and Wales :

	<i>Newcastle Emlyn R.D.</i>	<i>England & Wales</i>
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 of the population	13.3	16.3
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 Live and Still Births	0.00	13.0
Infant Death Rate per 1,000 Live Births	19.00	18.0
Deaths (All Ages) Rate per 1,000 population	19.5	11.9

Death rate (Comparability factor 0.87) = 16.9

Live Birth rate (comparability factor 1.19) = 16.83

CLASSIFICATION OF DEATHS 1969

	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Malignant Neoplasm—Oesophagus	1	1	2
Malignant Neoplasm—Intestine	2	—	2
Malignant Neoplasm—Stomach	5	2	7
Malignant Neoplasm—Lung, Bronchus	7	1	8
Malignant Neoplasm—Breast	—	3	3
Malignant Neoplasm—Uterus	—	3	3
Malignant Neoplasm—Prostate	1	—	1
Other Malignant Neoplasms, etc.	4	6	10
Other Endocrine, etc. diseases	1	—	1
Anaemias	2	—	2
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	—	2	2
Hypertensive Disease	2	2	4
Ischaemic Heart Disease	27	14	41
Other Forms of Heart Disease	3	6	9
Cerebrovascular Disease	16	11	27
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	5	4	9
Pneumonia	1	1	2
Bronchitis and Emphysema	4	—	4
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	2	—	2
Other Diseases of Digestive System	1	1	2
Nephritis and Nephrosis	1	—	1
Hyperplasia of Prostate	1	—	1
Birth Injury, Difficult Labour, etc.	—	1	1
Symptoms and Ill-Defined Conditions	2	1	3
Motor Vehicle Accidents	2	1	3
All Other Accidents	1	1	2
Suicide and Self Inflicted Injuries	2	—	2
All Other External Causes	—	1	1
Other diseases Genito-Urinary System	—	1	1
	93	63	156

Deaths in Age Groups :

0— 1 years—2	45—55 years—17
5—15 years—1	55—65 years—21
15—25 years—2	65—75 years—48
35—45 years—2	75+ —63

NEW CASES OF, AND MORTALITY FROM TUBERCULOSIS, 1969

<i>Age Period in Years</i>	<i>New Cases</i>				<i>Deaths</i>			
	<i>Respiratory</i>		<i>Non- Respiratory</i>		<i>Respiratory</i>		<i>Non- Respiratory</i>	
	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>
65—74 	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—

TUBERCULOSIS REGISTER—NOTIFICATIONS AND WITHDRAWALS

	<i>Respiratory</i>		<i>Non- Respiratory</i>		<i>Totals</i>	
	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>
Number of cases on the Register, 1/1/69	8	13	3	—	11	13
Number of cases notified for the first time during the year 	—	1	—	—	—	1
Number of transfers from other areas during the year 	—	—	—	—	—	—
Number of cases removed from the Register during the year 	1	4	—	—	1	4
Number of cases remaining on the Register as at 31/12/69 	7	10	3	—	10	10

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

Hospital, Laboratory and Ambulance Facilities :

The district is served mainly by the West Wales General Hospital, Carmarthen and Cardigan Hospital, with provision for cases of infectious diseases at the West Wales Isolation Hospital, Upper Tumble, Nr. Llanelli. Cases of mental disease receive treatment at St. David's Hospital, Carmarthen.

Clinics for the treatment of Venereal Diseases are held at the West Wales General Hospital, Glangwili, Carmarthen. Free treatment may be obtained at these clinics under conditions of secrecy and confidence. The clinics are held as follows :—

Males and Females—First and third Friday in each month—2 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Bacteriological and pathological investigations are carried out at the Public Health Laboratory and the Pathological Department at the West Wales General Hospital, Glangwili, Carmarthen, and the resources of these laboratories are always available to medical practitioners.

Ambulance facilities, including facilities for the transport of sitting car cases, are under the control of the County Council.

Home Nursing Services :

The area is served by :

Five District Nurses in the direct employ of the County Council at Pencader, Llanybyther, Velindre, Newcastle Emlyn and an area relief.

Child Health Clinics :

There are five child health clinics in the area—Brehfa, Cwmann, Llanybyther, Pencader and Velindre.

Ante-Natal Clinics :

There are no Ante-Natal Clinics in the area.

The Care of Unmarried Mothers and their Children :

Arrangements are made for unmarried mothers to be admitted to one of the following hostels : Northlands, Cardiff ; Cwmdonkin Shelter, Swansea ; The Llandaff Diocesan Moral Welfare Committee Hostel, Penarth or the St. Martin's Home, Hereford. These arrangements are made by the County Council and also the St. David's Diocesan Moral Welfare Committee.

National Assistance Acts, 1948 and 1951 :

Section 47 of the 1948 Act.

It is pleasing to report that no case called for action to be taken by the Council during the year.

SCHOOLS

The Local Education Authority is the County Council. There are 16 Primary Schools within the Rural area. During the year, two schools were permanently closed.

No schools within the area were closed on account of infectious diseases during the year.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

During the year one case of Respiratory Tuberculosis was notified. The patient resided in the Parish of Llanfihangel-ar-Arth.

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

Statistics relating to vaccination and immunisation during the year for the County as a whole, given by the County Medical Officer of Health, are as follows :—

(i) Smallpox

<i>Age at date of Vaccination</i>	<i>Number Vaccinated</i>	<i>Number Revaccinated</i>
Under 1 years	110	—
1 year	995	—
2—4 years	204	7
5—15 years	43	96

(ii) Vaccination of persons under 16

	PRIMARY						Boosters
	Born 1969	Born 1968	Born 1967	Born 1966	Born 1962— 1965	Others —16	
Triple Antigen	910	673	155	48	90	21	824
Diphtheria/ Tetanus ...	1	3	6	3	43	15	434
Tetanus ...	—	2	2	9	48	267	135
Polio (Sabin) ...	828	631	204	73	156	45	454
Measles ...	4	64	45	48	13	15	—

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT AND REGULATIONS

The Food and Drugs Authority for the area is the County Council. Mr. E. G. Nicholls, Chief Inspector of the County Council, reports as follows on work done during the year in the area of the Newcastle Emlyn Rural District under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955 and the various Regulations and Orders made thereunder :—

Total number of samples of food-stuffs and drugs submitted to the Public Analyst for analysis for compositional quality and purity						59
Informal samples of Milk tested for compositional quality by the Food and Drugs Inspectors						64
Informal samples of Alcoholic Spirits tested by the Food and Drugs Inspectors						7
Milk samples submitted to the Public Health Laboratory, Glangwili for bacteriological examination, etc.						82
						212

Milk samples submitted to the Public Analyst

Number of milk samples submitted	...	...	...	...	...	43
Certified to be genuine	...	...	...	...	...	36
Slightly deficient in Non-fatty-solids due to natural causes	...	...	...	...	...	6
Slightly deficient in Fat	...	...	...	...	...	1

Informal samples of Milk taken at Schools and other establishments and tested by the Food and Drugs Inspectors

Number of samples tested	...	...	...	...	...	64
Genuine in Fat and Non-fatty solids	...	...	...	...	...	62
Slightly deficient in Non-fatty-solids	...	...	...	...	...	2

Miscellaneous articles of Food and Drugs

Number of samples submitted to the Public Analyst	...	...	...	...	...	16
Certified to be genuine	...	...	...	...	...	14
Certified to be Unsatisfactory	...	...	...	...	...	2

Particulars of the Unsatisfactory samples

<i>Description of sample—</i>	<i>Nature of deficiency or irregularity and the administrative action taken</i>
Imported Honey	Label misleading as to country of origin. Distributors instructed to alter labels.
Stewed Steak with Gravy.	Deficient in Meat (Meat content found: 70% Minimum standard : 75%) Manufacturers warned.

Alcoholic Spirits

Five informal samples of Whisky and two informal samples of Gin were purchased at licensed premises and were tested by the Food and Drugs Inspectors. All samples were found to be genuine.

The Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1963 & 1965

Eighty-two samples of milk were taken from licensed milk-dealers and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory, Glangwili, for examination for bacteriological quality, etc. The results of the tests carried out on these samples were as follows :—

Pasteurised Milk

Satisfied both the Phosphatase test for adequacy of heat-treatment and the Methylene Blue Test for bacteriological quality	...	...	...	60
Failed the Phosphatase test but satisfied the Methylene Blue Test	...			2
				—
				62
				—

Untreated Milk

Satisfied the Methylene Blue Test	...	...	...	...	...	18
Failed the Methylene Blue Test	...	...	...	...	...	2
						—
						20
						—

Fifteen of the Untreated Milk samples were also examined for *Brucella abortus* under the Brucella Ring and Culture tests. One sample gave a positive result under the Brucella Ring test but *Brucella abortus* was not isolated in this sample under the follow up Culture test.

A Dealer's (Pasteuriser's) Milk Licence was issued in respect of a dairy in the area where a ' Holder ' type of pasteurising plant was installed during the year.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

The Council's Surveyor reports as follows :—

Water Supply

The difficulties being experienced with distribution of water supplies throughout the whole district were again reported to Council. The areas mostly affected were Llangeler, Pencader and Cwmann, where during dry seasons acute water shortage was experienced. It was again emphasised that unless steps were taken in the near future to augment on existing sources it would be virtually impossible to maintain adequate supplies for the whole of the Council's area.

A scheme prepared by the Council's Consulting Engineers for supplying the upper reaches of Cwmann (Tafarn Jem area) was presented to Council and submitted for the consideration of the Welsh Office. This scheme to be linked with the Cardigan-shire Water Board's trunk main at Lampeter will provide a supply of water for the first time to farms and dwellings in the higher reaches around Tafarn Jem and augment existing supplies from Llanybyther to Cwmann.

During 1969 further meetings were convened to discuss the possibility of the Council forming part of the Cardiganshire Water Board and it was agreed that the Council make a formal application for membership of that Board subject to satisfactory financial arrangements.

No major schemes were carried out during the year, but mains were re-laid in the following districts :—

Brynmadog, Brechfa
Rhydfach, Llangeler
Aberarad, Newcastle Emlyn

The following samples of water were taken and sent for bacteriological examination :—

Private Samples—3 Satisfactory	1 Unsatisfactory
Public Samples—6 Satisfactory	3 Unsatisfactory

21 small bore water tappings were made during the year.

3" Connections to Housing Estates were provided at Brechfa, Cwmann and at Maescader, Pencader.

2 new Sewer Tappings were made.

61 Cesspools/Septic Tanks were emptied during the year.

The Council's Public Health Inspector reports as follows :—

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal

The new Sewerage Scheme at Cenarth is now operational, and a survey was also made in the village of Llanfihangel-ar-Arth with a view to the provision of Sewerage facilities for the village.

Improvement Grants

24 Houses were improved with the aid of discretionary grants and 16 houses had amenities provided for the first time with the aid of standard grants. 11 standard grants and 17 discretionary grants were approved during the year.

Rent Act, 1957

Certificates of Disrepair

No Certificates of Disrepair were issued during the year.

Refuse Collection

Several complaints have been received of the inadequate collection service in some of the outlying areas.

A survey of the existing routes has been commenced with a view to providing weekly collections throughout the district.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

Record of Visits for 1969 :—

Nature of Visit or Inspection					No. of Visits
Water Supplies	...	...	...	...	36
Drainage	...	...	...	...	25
Offensive Trades	...	...	...	...	10
Moveable Dwellings	...	...	...	...	1
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	—
Public Conveniences	...	...	...	...	32
Refuse Collection	...	...	...	...	22
Refuse Disposal	...	...	...	...	10
Rats and Mice	...	...	...	...	10
Schools	...	...	...	...	—
Miscellaneous Sanitary Visits	...	...	...	...	2

Housing

Under Public Health Acts

Number of houses inspected	...	...	...	92
Visits paid to above houses	...	...	...	120

Under Housing Acts

Number of Houses inspected	...	...	...	64
Visits paid to above houses	...	...	...	134

Overcrowding

Number of houses inspected	...	...	...	—
Visits paid to above houses	...	...	...	—

Verminous Premises

Number of houses inspected	—
Visits paid to above houses	—

Miscellaneous Housing Visits

...	—
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Infectious Diseases

Inquiries in cases of Infectious Diseases	—
Miscellaneous Infectious Disease Visits	—

Meat and Food Inspection

Inspection of Meat and Meat Shops

Number of Slaughterhouses in area	...	...	1
Number of visits to above Slaughterhouse	...	...	300
Number of visits to Shops and Stalls	...	...	—
Number of visits to Butchers	...	...	—

Ice-Cream Premises

Number of visits for purposes of inspection and sampling	...	...	...	—
Number of Ice-Cream Manufacturers in area	...	...	...	—
Number of Ice-Cream Retailers in area	...	...	...	44

Milk Samples—Brucella Abortus

Number of Samples of raw milk examined and number found positive	...	—
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The Food and Drugs Act, 1955

The Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960

During the year the Public Health Inspector made numerous visits to various food premises in the area and with the co-operation of the owners and occupiers concerned every effort is being made to maintain the highest possible standard of hygiene.

The Liquid Egg (Pasteurisation) Regulations, 1963

Number of egg pasteurisation plants in the district	...	Nil
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Poultry Processing Premises

Number of poultry processing premises in the district	...	Nil
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Foodstuffs condemned by the Public Health Inspector at Shops, etc. (excluding the Slaughterhouse) :

260 lbs.—Canned Meats, etc.—Defective cans

Condemned foodstuffs are disposed of by burial on the Refuse Disposal Site.

HOUSING

1. Inspection of dwelling houses during the year

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	159
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	254
(2) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	—
(3) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive to those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respect reasonably fit for human habitation	20

Houses Demolished

In Clearance Areas	Nil
Not in Clearance Areas	Nil

Unfit Houses Closed

Under Sections 16(4), 17(1), and 35(1) Housing Act 1957 and Section 26 Housing Act, 1961	Nil
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Rodent Control

A specialist rodent operator is not employed by the Authority ; the work being done by a member of the Housing Repair staff on a part-time basis.

Slaughterhouse Facilities and Meat Inspection

There is one private slaughterhouse in the district which is situated in the village of Llanybyther. In accordance with the Meat Inspection Regulations, 1963, all food animals slaughtered were examined by the Public Health Inspector and the carcasses passed fit for human consumption marked with an official identifying stamp.

The following table summarises the amount of carcasses and offal inspected and condemned at the Slaughterhouse :—

CARCASSES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED IN WHOLE OR IN PART

	Cattle including Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number inspected ...	237	8,502	11,282	282
All Diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci				
Whole carcasses condemned ...	15	31	19	—
Carcasses of which some part was condemned (excluding offal)	3	2	2	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis or Cysticerci	7.2%	.35%	.14%	—

The following carcasses and offal were condemned :—

Bovine Livers	...	...	2,088 lbs.
Bovine Lungs	...	...	1,160 lbs.
Trimming	...	...	217 lbs.

Whole Carcasses :—

Cattle (including cows)	...	...	15
Calves	...	...	31
Sheep and Lambs	...	...	19

Administration of the Factories Act, 1961

Duties of the Sanitary Authority under the Factories Act have been carried out by the Public Health Inspector as part of his routine work, and a close liaison has been maintained with the District Inspector of Factories.

PART I OF THE ACT

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by the Public Health Inspector).

<i>Premises</i>	<i>Number on Register</i>	<i>Number of</i>		
		<i>Inspections</i>	<i>Written Notices</i>	<i>Occupiers Prosecuted</i>
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	37	6	Nil	Nil
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers premises) ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total	37	6	Nil	Nil

2. Cases in which defects were found :—

<i>Particulars</i>	<i>Number of cases in which defects were found</i>				<i>No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted</i>
	<i>Found</i>	<i>Remedied</i>	<i>Referred</i>		
(1)	(2)	(3)	<i>To H.M. Inspector</i> (4)	<i>By H.M. Inspector</i> (5)	(6)
Sanitary Conveniences					
(a) Insufficient	2	2	Nil	2	Nil
(b) Unsuitable or defective	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
(c) Not separate for sexes	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
TOTAL	2	2	Nil	2	Nil

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